



09/123,614

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Group Art Unit: 3763  
MIDDLEMAN et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/123,614 ) Examiner: Cris Rodriguez  
Filed: June 28, 1998 )  
For: Device for Anchoring Tubular Element ) Pasadena, California

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX CPA  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Response and Amendment responds to the outstanding Office Action dated July 17, 2000. Please amend the application as follows:

8/28/00  
  
"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL121766532US Date of Deposit October 30, 2000  
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231.

Elaine Porter  
SignatureELAINE PORTER  
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